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For Media Release: October 29, 2004

JUDICIARY EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

During a ceremony today in the State Supreme Court courtroom, Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon recognized Hawai'i State Judiciary employees and groups for their outstanding contributions to the state court system.

The Meritorious Service Award honors individuals who have consistently maintained a high level of excellence on the job and have improved the efficiency and operations of the Judiciary. Individuals awarded the Meritorious Service Award were **Gail Hedani**, Information Technology and Communications Division, Administration; **Brook Mamizuka**, Adult Client Services Branch, First Judicial Circuit; **Blanche Okimoto**, Wahiawa District Court, First Judicial Circuit; and **Joanne Yanagida**, Human Resources Division, Administration.

The Spirit of the Judiciary Award recognizes employees who have a helpful, courteous attitude and convey a positive image of the Judiciary. This year's recipients were **Amina Kam**, Division of Driver Education (O'ahu); and **Elsie Shimizu**, Fiscal and Administrative Services Branch, First Judicial Circuit.

Certificates of Commendation are awarded to individuals and groups for their superior performance. The individual recipient was **Jacqueline Murai**, Division of Driver Education (Hilo).

In the group category, Certificates of Commendation were presented to the **Program Services Unit**, Special Services Branch, Second Judicial Circuit (Tiffany Iida, Sandy Inouye, Lori Jaber, David Nakama, Marian Scott, Kari Wakakuwa); and to the **Labor Relations Branch**, Human Resources Division, Administration (Dee Wakabayashi and Eric Tanigawa).

The nine awardees were selected from 35 individual and group nominees. A volunteer committee chaired by Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge Daniel Foley carefully reviewed the nominations and presented their recommendations to the Chief Justice for his selection.

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